

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

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USIA-15 IO-14 NEA-10 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 OIC-04 AEC-11

OMB-01 DRC-01 /164 W

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 690

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 VIENNA 9658

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: AD HOC GROUP MEETING NOV 22

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: IN MEETING NOVEMBER 22 FOLLOWING
EAST-WEST PLENARY EARLIER SAME DAY, AD HOC GROUP
UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP OF NETHERLANDS REP (QUARLES)
DISCUSSED TACTICS (SEPTTEL) SUGGESTED BY US FOR PERIOD
PRIOR TO DECEMBER BREAK AND AGREED TO REDUCE FREQUENCY
OF PLENARIES, AND TO ADDRESS SHORT-
COMINGS AND UNDERLYING PHILOSOPHY OF EASTERN NOVEMBER 8
PROPOSALS RATHER THAN THE TEXT ITSELF IN CONTEXT OF
FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF ALLIED OUTLINE PROPOSALS IN
ORDER TO AVOID GIVING STATUS TO EASTERN PROPOSAL.
GROUP ALSO DISCUSSED TWO SERIOUS LEAKS OF ALLIED
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PROPOSALS IN LONDON AND BRUSSELS AND DECIDED TO STICK

BY AGREED PRESS GUIDANCE (VIENNA 9652) FOR TIME BEING. UK CIRCULATED PAPER ON SUGGESTED WAYS OF DEALING WITH EASTERN INSISTENCE ON INCLUDING NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND GRAOUP AGREED TO CONSIDER IT AT FUTURE MEETING. END SUMMARY.

2. PRESS LEAKS. UK REP (ROSE) REPORTED SERIOUS LEAK OF ALLIED OUTLINE PROPOSAL IN GUARDIAN NOVEMBER 21 IN ARTICLE BY HELLA PICK, WHICH CONTAINED DETAILED AND ACCURATE FIGURES. HE ASSURED GROUP THAT NO ONE IN HIS DELEGATION HAD SPOKEN TO THE PRESS, AND ADDED THAT THE STORY WAS DATELINED LONDON AND MISS PICK HAD NOT BEEN IN VIENNA SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE TALKS. HE COULD OFFER NO EXPLANATION OF THE SOURCE OF THE LEAK BUT HAD PROTESTED IN STRONG TERMS TO LONDON. FRG REP (BEHREND) REPORTED EQUALLY SERIOUS LEAK OF ALLIED PROPOSAL IN FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG IN ARTICLE DATELINED BRUSSELS BY WESELOH, PAPER'S EXPERT ON DISARMAMENT MATTERS. FROM INTERNAL EVIDENCE, LEAK APPEARED TO HAVE OCCURED AFTER NOVEMBER 20 MEETING AND BEFORE NOVEMBER 21 MEETING OF NAC. ARTICLE WAS GENERALLY ACCURATE. US PRESS REP CIRCULATED MEMORANDUM REPORTING THAT POLISH SPOESMAN WICZOREK HAD SPECIFICALLY CALLED ATTENTION OF RESIDENT AMERICAN JOURNALISTS TO FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ARTICLE AT PRESS CENTER. WICZOREK MENTIONED TO NEWSMEN THAT US HAD TABLED A NUMERICAL PROPOSAL.

3. CHAIRMAN (NETHELANDS REP QUARLS) DEPLORED BRUSSELS LEAK AS A "DISASTER" AND SAID THAT MOMENT WAS NEAR WHEN AD HOC GROUP WOULD HAVE TO GIVE MORE COMPREHENSIVE BACKGROUNDING TO PRESS. US REP SUGGESTED ALLIES STICK WITH AGREED LINE FOR NEXT DAYS AND REVIEW SITUATION AGAIN NEXT WEEK.

4. CHAIRMANSHIP PROBLEMS. CHAIRMAN REPORTED CONFUSION OVER WHETHER AGREEMENT HAD ALREADY BEEN REACHED WITH EAST TO USE ALPHABETICAL ORDER F SPEAKERS AT PLENARIES. HE ASKED BELGIAN REP TO SEEK FINAL AGREEMENT THROUGH POLES.

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5. DRAFT US PAPER ON POSSIBLE TACTICS TO MID-DECEMBER BREAK (CONTENTS SEPTTEL). US REP SAID HE GENERALLY AGREED WITH US PAPER AND THOUGHT ALLIES SHOULD DEAL FAIRLY CLOSELY WITH THE EASTERN PROPOSAL IN THE COURSE OF ELABORATING ALLIED PROPOSALS. HE ADDED THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO BE MORE SPECIFIC ABOUT ASSOCIATED MEASURES, SINCE SOVIET DELEGATIONS SHOULD,

BY THE MID-DECEMBER BREAK, HAVE A FAIRLY COMPREHENSIVE
VIEW OF WHOLE ALLIED POSITION IN ORDER TO BE ABLE
REPORT FULLY TO MOSCOW DURING RECESS. OTHERWISE
EASTERN DELEGATIONS WILL RETURN WITH INADEQUATE
INSTRUCTIONS AND WILL ACCUSE ALLIES OF PROCRASTINATING.
IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE, THEREFORE, TO
DEAL WITH PRE-REDUCTION MEASURES AT THE 11 DECEMBER
PLENARY AT THE LATEST. HE BELIEVED ALLIES MISSIONS
TO NAC SHOULD BE INFORMED OF THIS NEED SO THAT
DECISION-MAKING THERE COULD BE ACCELERATED.

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MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

CANADIAN REP AGREED, BUT STRESSED THAT PLENARY SHOULD ADDRESS
ALL ASSOCIATED MEASURES, NOT MERELY PRE-REDUCTION. MOREOVER
HE THOUGHT IT NECESSARY TO FIND AGREED LINE ON SUBSTANCE OF
INFORMAL CONTACTS WITH OTHER SIDE BEFORE CHRISTMAS. FRG REP

AGREED WITH UK REP BUT DOUBTED THAT BRUSSELS COULD REACH AGREEMENT BY THAT DATE ON FULL RANGE OF ASSOCIATED MEASURES. THE ONLY PRACTICAL APPROACH WOULD BE PIECEMEAL. HE GENERALLY AGREED WITH CONTENTS OF US DEL PAPER BUT WONDERED WHETHER ALLIES HAD ANYTHING MORE TO SAY UNDER THE TOPIC LISTED AS GENERAL REVIEW. ALLIES SHOULD AVOID CRITICIZING SPECIFIC LANGUAGE OF SOVIET PROPOSAL BUT SHOULD CRITICIZE GENERAL EASTERN APPROACH.

6. USREP ARGUED THAT REPETITION OF ALLIED POINTS USEFUL NOW IN ORDER TO CONVINCE SOVIET DELEGATION THAT ALLIED POSITION IS FIRM.

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NETHERLANDS REP AGREED WITH PAPER BUT ALSO AGREED WITH FRG REP THAT ALLIES SHOULD DEAL WITH EASTERN PHILOSOPHY AS WELL. THE CURRENT PHASE OF NEGOTIATIONS, AS HE SAW IT, WAS TO PREPARE WAY FOR MORE SPECIFIC DIALOGUE IN JANUARY. THERE WAS LITTLE CHANCE OF MOVEMENT NOW UNTIL SOVIETS HAD CHANCE FOR EXTENSIVE REVIEW IN MOSCOW DURING BREAK.

7. SCHEDULING OF REMAINING 1973 PLENARIES.

GROUP GENERALLY AGREED WITH SUGGESTED US APPROACH OF REDUCING FREQUENCY OF REMAINING PLENARIES AND ENGAGED IN GENERAL DETAILED DISCUSSION OF SUTABLE DATES. TO BEGIN THIS PROCESS CHAIRMAN ASKED BELGIAN REP TO PROPOSE TO POLISH DEL POSTPONEMENT OF ANNOUNCED NOVEMBER 27 PLENARY TO NOVEMBER 29, WHICH WOULD PERMIT ALLIES FURTHER TIME TO PREPARE. MINORITY FRG REP SUGGESTED NO DAMAGE WOULD BE DONE IF ALLIES FAILED TO SPEAK AT NOVEMBER 27 PLENARY AND GREEK REP SAID IT WOULD BE AN INTERESTING FORUM IN WHICH TO ASSESS EASTERN REACTION TO ALLIED OUTLINE PROPOSALS. IT WAS AGREED THAT IF PLENARY WAS HELD NOVEMBER 27, ALLIES WOULD NOT SPEAK. US DEP REP SUGGESTED NOVEMBER 28 AS FALLBACK DATE, WHICH WAS ACCEPTED. CANADIAN REP AGAIN RAISED QUESTION OF ATTITUDE TO BE TAKEN BY ALLIES IN INFORMAL MEETINGS WITH EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES ON CONTENTS OF EASTERN PROPOSAL. US DEP REP URGED ALLIED AVOID DIRECT QUESTIONING ON TEXT OF EASTERN PROPOSAL AND THIS VIEW WAS ACCEPTED. BELGIAN DEP REP REPORTED BILATERAL WITH SOVIET DEL OFF SHUSTOV, WHO HAD MADE IT CLEAR THAT EAST HAD AVOIDED DISCUSSION OF DISPARITIES SO AS NOT TO APPEAR TO ADOPT THE PRINCIPLE OF TAKING THEM INTO ACCOUNT. SHUSTOV ALSO SAID THAT EAST WANTED ALLIES TO REACT IN SOME WAY TO SOVIET PROPOSAL SO THAT THEY WOULD HAVE SOME BASIS OF REPORTING TO MOSCOW ON RECEPTION OF PROPOSAL BY ALLIES. IT WAS AGREED THAT IN RESPONSE TO SUCH PROBES, ALLIES SHOULD DISCUSS GENERAL PHILOSOPHY AND SHORTCOMINGS RATHER THAN ACTUAL TEXT OF EASTERN PROPOSAL. HUMES

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